United Nations A/RES/68/183

General Assembly

Distr.: General
4 February 2014

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 69 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 2013

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/68/456/Add.3)*]

68/183. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

Mindful that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[1] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[1] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[3] and recalling the concluding observations of the treaty-monitoring bodies under the four treaties,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including Assembly resolution 67/181 of 20 December 2012 and Council resolution 22/13 of 21 March 2013,[4] and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

Welcoming the establishment of the commission of inquiry by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 22/13, taking note of its initial oral report to the Council in September 2013 and to the General Assembly in October 2013, and commending its methodology of conducting public hearings with witnesses, while regretting that the commission has received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including with regard to access to the country,

---

[1] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

13-45043 (E)

Please recycle

Acknowledging the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the universal periodic review process, expressing serious concern at the continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to articulate its position as to which recommendations included in the outcome report of its universal periodic review,[5] adopted in March 2010, enjoy its support, and regretting the continuing lack of action by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the recommendations contained in the report,

Noting with appreciation the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country, and the collaboration established with the United Nations Children's Fund in order to improve the quality of education for children,

Noting the decision on the resumption, on a modest scale, of the activities of the United Nations Development Programme in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and encouraging the engagement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the international community to ensure that the programmes benefit the persons in need of assistance,

Noting also the cooperation established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the purpose of conducting a crop and food security assessment, as well as the letter of understanding signed with the World Food Programme, recognizing improvements in access by the World Food Programme, emphasizing the importance of providing further access to all United Nations entities, while supporting the establishment, implementation and monitoring of joint projects with other international agencies and organizations aiming to increase the synergy of food and non-food assistance, and noting also with appreciation the work of international aid operators in the areas of humanitarian and food assistance,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[6] regretting that he still has not been allowed to visit the country and that he received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and taking note also of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution 67/181,[7]

Noting with appreciation the recent signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[8] by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, encouraging the Government to take speedy steps to ratify the Convention, and urging the Government to fully respect the rights of persons with disabilities,

Noting the importance of the inter-Korean dialogue, which could contribute to the improvement of the human rights and humanitarian situation in the country,

Noting with regret that the reunion of separated families across the border, which is an urgent humanitarian concern of the entire Korean people, has been

[5] A/HRC/13/13.

[6] A/68/319.

[7] A/68/392.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

halted, and hoping that it will be resumed as early as possible and that necessary arrangements for further reunions on a larger scale and a regular basis will be made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and members of the Korean diaspora,

Deeply concerned at the significant persistent deterioration of the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

1. *Expresses its very serious concern* at:

(*a*) The persistence of continuing reports of systematic, widespread and grave violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention, public executions, extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; collective punishments extending up to three generations; and the extensive use of forced labour;

(ii) The existence of an extensive system of political prison camps, where a vast number of persons are deprived of their liberty and subjected to deplorable conditions and where alarming violations of human rights are perpetrated, and in this regard strongly urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to immediately end this practice and to release all political prisoners unconditionally and without any delay;

(iii) Limitations imposed on every person who wishes to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including the punishment of those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families, as well as punishment of persons who are returned;

(iv) The situation of refugees and asylum seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and sanctions imposed on citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or the death penalty, and in this regard strongly urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, to treat those who seek refuge humanely and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to protecting the human rights of those who seek refuge, and once again urges States parties to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[9] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[10] in relation to refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;

(v) All-pervasive and severe restrictions on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, the right to privacy and equal access to information, by such means as the persecution, torture and imprisonment of individuals exercising

[9] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[10] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

their freedom of opinion and expression, religion or belief, and their families, and the right of everyone to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, of his or her country;

(vi) The violations of economic, social and cultural rights, which have led to severe malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in particular for persons belonging to particularly exposed groups, inter alia, women, children and the elderly;

(vii) Continuing violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, in particular the creation of internal conditions that force women to leave the country and risk falling victim to trafficking for the purpose of prostitution or forced marriage and the subjection of women to human smuggling, forced abortions, gender-based discrimination, including in the economic sphere, and gender-based violence and continuing impunity for such violence;

(viii) Continuing reports of violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children, in particular the continued lack of access to basic economic, social and cultural rights for many children, and in this regard notes the particularly vulnerable situation faced by, inter alia, returned or repatriated children, street children, children with disabilities, children whose parents are detained, children living in detention or in institutions and children in conflict with the law;

(ix) Continuing reports of violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially in the use of collective camps and of coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children;

(x) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[1] and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[2]

(*b*) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to recognize the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the mandate of the commission of inquiry or to extend cooperation to the Special Rapporteur and the commission of inquiry;

(*c*) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to articulate which recommendations enjoyed its support following its universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council or to express its commitment to their implementation, and expresses its serious concern at the lack of action taken to date to implement the recommendations contained in the final outcome;[5]

2. *Underscores its very serious concern* at unresolved questions of international concern relating to abductions in the form of enforced disappearance, which violate the human rights of nationals of other sovereign countries, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of

Korea urgently to resolve those questions, including through existing channels, in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the immediate return of abductees;

3. *Expresses its very deep concern* at the precarious humanitarian situation in the country, which could rapidly deteriorate owing to limited resilience to natural disasters and to government policies causing limitations in the availability of and access to food, compounded by structural weaknesses in agricultural production resulting in significant shortages of diversified food and the State restrictions on the cultivation and trade in foodstuffs, as well as the prevalence of chronic and acute malnutrition, particularly among the most vulnerable groups, pregnant women, infants and children and the elderly, which, despite some progress, continues to affect the physical and mental development of a significant proportion of children, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action, cooperating where necessary with international donor agencies and in accordance with international standards for monitoring humanitarian assistance;

4. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur and the commission of inquiry for the activities undertaken so far and for their continued efforts in the conduct of their mandates despite the denial of access;

5. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(*a*) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights emphasized above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and the recommendations addressed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the Council in the context of the universal periodic review and by the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

(*b*) To protect its inhabitants, address the issue of impunity and ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights are brought to justice before an independent judiciary;

(*c*) To tackle the root causes leading to refugee outflows and prosecute those who exploit refugees by human smuggling, trafficking and extortion, while not criminalizing the victims;

(*d*) To ensure that citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are able to return in safety and dignity, are treated humanely and are not subjected to any kind of punishment, and to provide information on their status and treatment;

(*e*) To extend its full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur and the commission of inquiry, including by granting them full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other United Nations human rights mechanisms so that a full needs assessment of the human rights situation may be made;

(*f*) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, as pursued by the High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country, and to strive to implement the

recommendations made in the universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council;

(*g*) To engage in cooperation with the International Labour Organization;

(*h*) To continue and reinforce its cooperation with United Nations humanitarian agencies;

(*i*) To ensure full, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid and take measures to allow humanitarian agencies to secure its impartial delivery to all parts of the country on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, as it pledged to do, and to ensure access to adequate food and implement more effective food security policies, including through sustainable agriculture, sound food production distribution measures and by allocating more funds to the food sector, and to ensure adequate monitoring of humanitarian assistance;

(*j*) To further improve cooperation with the United Nations country team and development agencies so that they can directly contribute to improving the living conditions of the civilian population, including accelerating progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in accordance with international monitoring and evaluation procedures;

(*k*) To consider ratifying and acceding to remaining international human rights treaties, which would enable a dialogue with the human rights treaty bodies;

6. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its sixty-ninth session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and requests the Special Rapporteur to continue to report his findings and recommendations, as well as to report on the outcome of and follow-up to the work of the commission of inquiry, in line with any decisions of the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fifth session.

70th plenary meeting
18 December 2013

General Assembly

Distr.: General
4 February 2014

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 69 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 2013

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/68/456/Add.3)*]

68/184. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other international human rights instruments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 67/182 of 20 December 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in September 2013 pursuant to resolution 67/182,[3] in which he notes that he remains deeply troubled by ongoing human rights violations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran[4] submitted in October 2013 pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 22/23 of 15 April 2013,[5] in which the Special Rapporteur continues to catalogue a wide range of systemic and systematic human rights violations;

2. *Welcomes* pledges made by the new President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to some important human rights issues, particularly on eliminating discrimination against women and members of ethnic minorities and promoting freedom of expression and opinion, as well as the proposal of the President to implement a civil rights charter, and encourages the Islamic Republic of Iran to take concrete action to ensure that these pledges can result in demonstrable improvements as soon as possible and to uphold the Government's obligations under its national laws and under international human rights law;

---

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] A/68/377.

[4] A/68/503.

[5] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

Please recycle

3. *Also welcomes* the peaceful conduct during voting in the June 2013 presidential elections and the broad participation of the Iranian people, while expressing concern over the restrictions placed on candidates, including the exclusion of all women candidates, and the further erosion of democratic space for political activities prior to the elections;

4. *Further welcomes* the recent release of a number of prisoners of conscience and political prisoners, and continues to call upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to immediately and unconditionally release all those who have been arbitrarily arrested and detained for exercising their rights to freedom of religion or belief, freedom of expression and peaceful assembly or for participating in peaceful protests about political, economic, environmental or other issues;

5. *Expresses deep concern* at serious ongoing and recurring human rights violations in the Islamic Republic of Iran relating to, inter alia:

(*a*) Torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including flogging and amputations;

(*b*) The continuing alarming high frequency of the carrying-out of the death penalty in the absence of internationally recognized safeguards, including public executions, notwithstanding the issuance of a circular by the former head of the judiciary prohibiting public executions, and secret group executions, as well as reports of executions undertaken without the notification of the prisoner's family members or legal counsel;

(*c*) The continuing imposition and carrying-out of the death penalty against minors and persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18, in violation of the obligations of the Islamic Republic of Iran under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[6] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[2]

(*d*) The imposition of the death penalty for crimes that lack a precise and explicit definition, including *moharebeh* (enmity against God), and for crimes that do not qualify as the most serious crimes, in violation of international law;

(*e*) Widespread and serious restrictions on the right to peaceful assembly, freedom of association and freedom of opinion and expression, including through efforts to block, filter or hinder Internet access and content, jam international satellite transmissions into the Islamic Republic of Iran and censor or close newspapers, magazines and other publications, including in the lead-up to the June 2013 presidential election;

(*f*) The systematic targeting and harassment of human rights defenders, who face arrest, arbitrary detention, long-term exile and harsh sentences, including the death sentence;

(*g*) Pervasive gender inequality and violence against women and increased discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice, as well as restrictions on access to government decision-making positions and the labour market;

(*h*) Continued discrimination and other human rights violations, at times amounting to persecution, against persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, including Arabs, Azeris, Balochis and Kurds and their defenders, noting

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

in particular reports of the violent suppression and detention of ethnic Arabs and Azeris, including serious concerns about violations of their due process rights and alleged torture while imprisoned;

(*i*) Ongoing severe limitations and restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief and restrictions on the building of, as well as attacks against, places of worship and burial;

(*j*) Continued harassment, at times amounting to persecution, and human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized religious minorities, including Christians, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims and Zoroastrians and their defenders, noting in particular the widespread arrest and detention of Sufi Muslims and evangelical Christians, including the continued detention of Christian pastors;

(*k*) Continued persecution and human rights violations against persons belonging to unrecognized religious minorities, particularly members of the Baha'i faith and their defenders, including targeted attacks and murders, without proper investigation to hold those responsible accountable, arbitrary arrests and detention, the restriction of access to higher education on the basis of religion, the continued imprisonment of the leadership of the Iranian Baha'i community, the closure of Baha'i-owned businesses and the de facto criminalization of membership in the Baha'i faith;

(*l*) Continued and sustained house arrest of leading opposition figures from the 2009 presidential elections and growing concerns about their health, as well as ongoing restrictions on their supporters and family members, including through harassment, intimidation and reprisals;

(*m*) Persistent failure to uphold due process of law, and violations of the rights of detainees, including the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance, the lack of access of detainees to legal representation of their choice, the refusal to consider granting bail to detainees, the poor conditions of prisons and the denial of access to adequate medical treatment, as well as reports of detainees dying in custody, being subjected to torture, rape and other forms of sexual violence, harsh interrogation techniques and the use of pressure exerted upon their relatives and dependants, including through arrest, to obtain false confessions that are then used at trials;

(*n*) Continuing arbitrary or unlawful interference by State authorities with the privacy of individuals, in particular in relation to private homes, and with their correspondence, including telephone and e-mail communications, in violation of international law;

6. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations, in law and in practice, in particular:

(*a*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, amputations, flogging, blinding and other forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) To abolish, in law and in practice, public executions and other executions carried out in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards, including by stoning and suspension strangulation;

(*c*) To further revisit the revised Islamic Penal Code to make it consistent with its obligation, under article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to abolish executions of minors and persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18;

(*d*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls, to promote women's participation in decision-making positions and, while recognizing the high enrolment of women in all levels of education, to lift all restrictions on women's equal access to all aspects of university education;

(*e*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, recognized or otherwise;

(*f*) To eliminate discrimination against, and exclusion of, members of certain groups, including members of the Baloch community and members of the Baha'i faith, regarding access to higher education, to eliminate the criminalization of efforts to provide higher education to Baha'i youth denied access to Iranian universities and to release those imprisoned for this reason;

(*g*) To implement, inter alia, the 1996 report of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance,[7] in which he recommended ways in which the Islamic Republic of Iran could emancipate the Baha'i community, to release the seven Baha'i leaders held since 2008 and to accord all Baha'is, including those imprisoned because of their beliefs, the due process of law and the rights that they are constitutionally guaranteed;

(*h*) To launch a comprehensive accountability process in response to cases of serious human rights violations, including those involving the Iranian judiciary and security agencies, and to end impunity for such violations;

(*i*) To fulfil pledges by the new President for greater space for freedom of expression and opinion by ending the harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents, human rights defenders, women's rights activists, labour leaders, students, academics, film-makers, journalists and their families, other media representatives, bloggers, netizens, clerics, artists and lawyers, including by releasing persons detained arbitrarily or on the basis of their political views, and in this regard welcoming the reopening of the House of Cinema;

(*j*) To end restrictions on the press and media representatives, Internet users and Internet providers, including the selective jamming of satellite broadcasts, that violate the rights to freedom of expression and association;

(*k*) To uphold, in law and in practice, procedural guarantees to ensure due process of law;

7. *Also calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to strengthen its national human rights institutions in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles),[8] as it committed itself to doing in the framework of its universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council;[9]

---

[7] E/CN.4/1996/95/Add.2.

[8] Resolution 48/134, annex.

[9] See A/HRC/14/12 and Add.1 and Corr.1.

8. *Notes* the recent engagement by the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, recalls its previous engagement with the Human Rights Committee,[10] and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to consider acting upon the concluding observations adopted by those committees;

9. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to effectively implement its obligations under those human rights treaties to which it is already a party, to withdraw any reservations that it may have made upon signature or ratification of other international human rights instruments where such reservations are overly general, imprecise or could be considered incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty, to consider acting upon the concluding observations concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted by the bodies of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party and to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights treaties to which it is not already a party;

10. *Strongly encourages* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement all of the recommendations that it accepted in the framework of its universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council, with the full and genuine participation of civil society and other stakeholders in the implementation process;

11. *Expresses deep concern* that, despite the standing invitation issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran to all thematic special procedures mandate holders, it has not fulfilled any requests from those special mechanisms to visit the country in eight years and has left unanswered the vast majority of the numerous and repeated communications from those special mechanisms, and strongly urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to fully cooperate with the special mechanisms, including facilitating their visits to its territory, so that credible and independent investigations of all allegations of human rights violations can be conducted;

12. *Expresses serious concern* about allegations of reprisals against individuals for their cooperation or contact with United Nations human rights mechanisms or representatives;

13. *Strongly encourages* the thematic special procedures mandate holders to pay particular attention to, with a view to investigating and reporting on, the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in particular the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Rapporteur on the right to education, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, the Independent Expert on minority issues, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice;

[10] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/67/40), vol. I, para. 107.

14. *Welcomes* the recent engagement, through country visits, of the heads of United Nations agencies, and urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to deepen its engagement with United Nations human rights mechanisms;

15. *Encourages* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue exploring cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

16. *Continues to call upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran and other international human rights mechanisms, including by responding positively to the request made by the Special Rapporteur in July 2013 to visit the country to carry out his mandate;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fifth session;

18. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its sixty-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

70th plenary meeting
18 December 2013

United Nations A/RES/68/185

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 February 2014

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 108

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 2013

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/68/457)*]

68/185. Follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,[1] should be held,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Emphasizing the important role played by the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in recognizing that crime prevention and criminal justice, with due regard to the observance of human rights, make a direct contribution to the maintenance of peace and security,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental

[1] Resolution 46/152, annex.

Please recycle

organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recalling its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, and invited its intergovernmental bodies to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling also its resolution 62/173 of 18 December 2007, in which it endorsed the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its meeting held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, in which it endorsed the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,[3] adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcomed with appreciation the offer of the Government of Qatar to act as host to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in 2015,

Recalling its resolution 67/184 of 20 December 2012, in which it approved the main theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Thirteenth Congress and decided that the duration of the Thirteenth Congress should not exceed eight days, including pre-Congress consultations,

Taking note of the development goals and national commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4]

Recognizing the importance of the substantive contributions that the Thirteenth Congress can make to the United Nations post-2015 development agenda,

Re-emphasizing the importance of integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address, inter alia, social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and public participation,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Thirteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[5]

1. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime

[2] See E/CN.15/2007/6, chap. IV.

[3] Resolution 65/230, annex.

[4] Resolution 55/2.

[5] E/CN 15/2013/10.

Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World[3] and the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein, taking into account the economic, social, legal and cultural specificities of their respective States;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

3. *Decides* to hold the Thirteenth Congress in Doha, from 12 to 19 April 2015, with pre-Congress consultations to be held on 11 April 2015;

4. *Also decides* that the high-level segment of the Thirteenth Congress shall be held during the first two days of the Congress in order to allow Heads of State or Government and Government ministers to focus on the main theme of the Congress and to enhance the possibility of generating useful feedback;

5. *Further decides* that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Thirteenth Congress shall adopt a single declaration, to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its consideration, and that the declaration shall contain the major recommendations reflecting and emerging from the deliberations of the high-level segment, as well as the discussion of the agenda items and the workshops;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the draft discussion guide prepared by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, for the regional preparatory meetings and for the Thirteenth Congress;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to finalize the discussion guide in a timely manner, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as additional comments and feedback from Member States, in order to enable the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress to be held as early as possible in 2014;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to proceed with the organization of the four regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice, as well as making a special effort to organize the regional preparatory meeting for European and other States so as to benefit from their inputs;

9. *Urges* Governments to actively participate in the regional preparatory meetings, where appropriate, and invite their representatives to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Thirteenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations for consideration by the Congress;

10. *Invites* Governments to undertake preparations for the Thirteenth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees;

11. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Thirteenth Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by Heads of State or Government, Government ministers or attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress;

12. *Also reiterates its invitation* to Member States to play an active role in the Thirteenth Congress by sending legal and policy experts, including practitioners with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the participation of representatives from relevant entities of the United Nations system in the Thirteenth Congress, bearing in mind the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress;

14. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the workshops, and encourages States, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, other entities concerned and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the workshops are well-focused and achieve practical results, leading to technical cooperation ideas, projects and documents for enhancing bilateral and multilateral technical assistance activities in crime prevention and criminal justice;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Thirteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress, and encourages Member States to actively participate in the above-mentioned meetings, as they provide an opportunity to develop and maintain a strong partnership with the private sector and civil society organizations;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a plan for the documentation for the Thirteenth Congress, in consultation with the extended bureau of the Commission;

17. *Again encourages* the relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Thirteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the necessary resources, from within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015, to support the preparations for and holding of the Thirteenth Congress;

20. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, in collaboration with Member States, a wide and effective programme of public information relating to the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress, to the Congress itself and to the follow-up to and implementation of its recommendations;

21. *Requests* the Commission to accord sufficient time at its twenty-third session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress, to finalize in a timely manner all outstanding organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission at its twenty-third session.

70th plenary meeting
18 December 2013